



THE

Maryland



LINE

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE MARYLAND MILITARY DEPARTMENT

Special Edition -
Hurricane Sandy 2012

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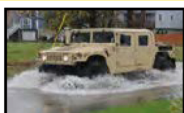
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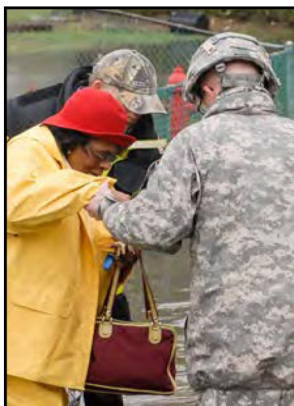


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***Members from
several Maryland
Guard units de-
ployed to Crisfield
Md., to assist local
authorities with
house-to-house
evacuations after
Hurricane Sandy
(Photo by Staff
Sgt. Thaddeus
Harrington, 29th
MPAD).***



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MARYLAND

Military Department

To All the Members of the Maryland Military Department:

Thank you all for your support in response to Super Storm Sandy. I was very pleased and proud of our ability to assist with the preparation, response and recovery. The recovery effort continues, and we must complete this operation and take these lessons learned to be better prepared for the next emergency.

Traveling across the state, I had the opportunity to visit emergency operations centers and talk to first responders and emergency service personnel. The message was the same from everyone I met. They were impressed with our professionalism and dedication of our young leaders.

During the recovery from the record-breaking storm, we also deployed 71 Soldiers from the 115th Military Police Battalion, demonstrating how we can respond to both our federal and state mission simultaneously. They join more than 300 Soldiers and Airmen currently deployed defending our freedom.

More than 800 members of the Maryland National Guard and Defense Force responded to 41 separate missions in support of MEMA and local first responders. Civilian employees of the Department ensured that we had the resources to respond as needed. Our aviators flew damage assessment flights coordinated by MEMA for the Governor. The Maryland Emergency Management Agency effectively coordinated a statewide response while actually taking the lead in the response efforts in Garrett County.

Our Soldiers, Airmen and MDDF members supported local fire and law enforcement officials throughout the impacted areas. The Joint Operations Center for the Maryland National Guard was able to monitor requests for assistance from 14 local Emergency Operations Centers with our County Liaison Teams (COLT). The COLT teams consist of members who are trained to work with the local emergency managers.

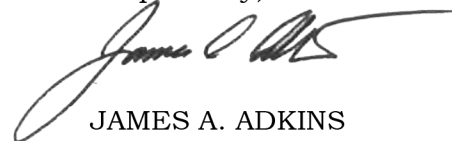
As Marylanders were recovering from the effects of the storm, New York requested assistance from neighboring states. On Saturday, Nov. 3, a Maryland Air National Guard C-27J cargo aircraft crew flew power generators and other equipment to help the New Yorkers recover.

I am always concerned about our loved ones at home when we go into harm's way. Every time you put on your uniform, your Family is making a sacrifice so you can serve. Recently, some of you returned to find that your own homes were damaged while you were out keeping your community safe. Your sacrifice has not gone unnoticed.

Once again, I would like to thank you and your Families for your dedication, professionalism and commitment to serving others.



Respectfully,



JAMES A. ADKINS

Major General

MDARNG

The Adjutant General

MDNG supports communities,

Story by 1st Lt. Kristofer Baumgartner

The Maryland National Guard prepared to support its neighbors across the state, Oct. 28, as it prepositioned Soldiers, Airmen and equipment in advance of Hurricane Sandy's anticipated landfall late Monday, Oct. 29.

The weather phenomenon, called a "perfect storm" by some, was expected to combine a rare mixture of a tropical hurricane from the east and an early winter storm from the west. The resulting effects were expected to dump several feet of snow in West Virginia and Virginia and inundate the rest of the Mid-Atlantic region with up to 12 inches of rain, according to the National Weather Service.

More than 250 Guard Soldiers and Airmen were called to State Active Duty, and another 4,250 were available statewide if needed.

"Many of our personnel and equipment are prepositioned, allowing our emergency managers to tailor the state's response by putting exactly what we need to handle a situation exactly where we need it," said Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins, adjutant general of Maryland. "This is cost effective, and it ensures a quick response and effective use of people and equipment."

The Guard has the necessary equipment such as trucks, "humvees" and helicopters to move troops and supplies in and around the state if affected by a hurricane.

The Guard's generators and maintainers also served a significant role, as Marylanders to experienced multiple days of power outages as the storm lingered over the region.

The Maryland National Guard is no stranger to natural disaster response missions. In addition to activating stateside for Hurricane Irene in August 2011 and Hurricane Isabel in 2003, the Maryland National Guard assisted with the relief efforts of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005. The Guard also helped the state dig out from two massive snowstorms, which blanketed the region in early 2010.



prepares for Hurricane Sandy

Opposite page: (Top) Maj. Gen. James Adkins, the adjutant general of Maryland, gets a situational update from Maryland National Guard Soldiers from the 729th Battalion Support Company and Bravo Troop, 1st Squadron, 158th Cavalry Regiment in Easton, Md (Photo by Maj. Rick Breitenfeldt). (Middle) Members of the Maryland National Guard 58th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade staged personnel and equipment at the Germantown Volunteer Fire Department in Germantown, Md., Oct. 29, in preparation of Hurricane Sandy (Photo by 2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly). (Bottom) Maryland Guardsmen prepare equipment at the Brig. Gen. Louis G. Smith Armory in Easton, Md., Oct. 28 (Photo by Staff Sgt. Thaddeus Harrington, 29th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment). This page: (Right) Maryland National Guard Soldiers from the 729th BSC and Bravo Troop, 1-158th CAV in Easton, Md., fill sandbags in preparation for Hurricane Sandy (Photo by Maj. Rick Breitenfeldt). (Bottom) Members of the 729th BSC are dispatched to Queen Anne's County Emergency Operations Center from the Brig. Gen. Louis G. Smith Armory in Easton, Md., Oct. 28 (Photo by Staff Sgt. Thaddeus Harrington, 29th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment).



Guardians in the storm: MDNG works across state with civilian authorities in response to Hurricane Sandy

Members from several Maryland Guard units deployed to Crisfield Md., to assist local authorities with house-to-house evacuations after Hurricane Sandy passed Oct. 30. (Photos by Staff Sgt. Thaddeus Harrington, 29th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment).





Maryland National Guard Soldiers navigate through high water near Edgemere, Md., Oct. 30, to assist in relief efforts for Hurricane Sandy. (Photo by Sgt. Edwin Gray, 29th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment).



Use your smart phone to scan this QR code to watch a video of the Maryland National Guard in Crisfield, Md., Oct. 30. (Video by Sgt. Regina Glott, 29th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment).



Maryland National Guard Soldiers at the task force headquarters in Adelphi, Md., Oct. 30, monitor Maryland National Guard support local civilian agencies and the citizens of Maryland in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy (Photo by 2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly).

Members of the Maryland National Guard's 253rd Engineer Company (Sapper) supported the Emergency Operations Center in Hyattsville, Md., Oct. 30, helping to transport personnel, such as nurses and firefighters, to and from their homes and the EOC or shelters in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy (Photo by 2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly).



Air National Guard C-27J aircraft responds to h

Story and photos by Tech. Sgt. David Speicher, 175th Wing

A C-27J 'Spartan' aircraft crew from the 175th Wing, Maryland Air National Guard Base in Middle River, Md., flew power generators and other equipment to New York, Nov. 3, in support of Hurricane Sandy relief efforts.

ANG crews from Maryland, Ohio, and Mississippi flew the first-ever C-27J domestic operations mission transporting power generation equipment and HUMVEEs to Stewart Air National Guard Base, N.Y., to help provide needed power resources in the affected area. ANG domestic operations provide support during, and in the aftermath, of a domestic emergency - in this case Hurricane Sandy.

"It is really nice knowing that when flying the C-27J, that if you have to get to the small airfields that the big planes can't, you can provide the supplies for the people who need it," said Master Sgt. Matt Kerstetter, Mary-

land ANG 135th Airlift Squadron loadmaster.

According to 1st Lt. Ken V. McGee, a public affairs officer for the Ohio Army National Guard, the 1484th Transportation Company was convoying approximately 70 trucks and 120 Soldiers to set up a food and water distribution point in New York City as part of Ohio's response to assist neighboring states. An advance team was airlifted by three C-27Js: one each from Maryland, Ohio and Mississippi ANG units.

"This gets the equipment there faster than on the ground," said Lt. Col. Gary Laubach, 135th AS aircraft commander.

Initially, the C-27J crew flew their plane to Macon, Ga., Oct. 27 - safely out of the path of Hurricane Sandy. On Wednesday, Oct. 31, they returned and were immediately put on alert for disaster relief missions.

"It feels dif-

ferent when you are so close to home and closer to your state," said Laubach while talking about the difference between this mission and past disaster relief missions. "One of our pilot's mothers is in the affected area and will be out of power for a week. This mission was great - extremely satisfying. It feels good to get stuff to the people who need it; I only wish I could be there when the generators get plugged in where the people need the electricity. This is the best mission you could get."

Capt. Paul Mercier, C-27J co-pilot for the mission, was deployed earlier in the year to Afghanistan and was happy to do a state-side mission.

"It was nice to provide a little help to the folks in the New York area. It feels good," said Mercier. "This is close to home and I have friends in the New York area. Hopefully I have been helping our friends in the area."

Not only were the Guard members



Hurricane relief efforts, helps bring power to NY

happy to help those in need, but also to be able to put their training to use.

"It is a great experience to get out there and help people and do what we are meant to do in a National Guard unit," said Senior Airman Ian Beanland, 135th AS loadmaster. "We do a lot of training with the C-27J, today is one of these days we executed the mission as planned."

The C-27J is a medium-sized military transport. It has similar logistical and maintenance characteristics to the C-130J 'Hercules' aircraft and can access a wide range of airfields, including short, unprepared strips while transporting heavy loads.

Three C-27J Spartans wait at the Akron-Canton Airport in Ohio, Nov. 3, to upload mission critical equipment in support of disaster relief from Hurricane Sandy. Cargo planes from Maryland, Mississippi and Ohio National Guard units transported electrical generators to be used in the New York City area.

Master Sgt. Matt Kerstetter, left, and members of the New York Air National Guard unload an electrical generator from a C-27J Spartan at Stewart Air National Guard Base in New York, Nov. 3. The mission critical equipment is being transported by the Maryland Air National Guard for relief efforts in New York City due to Hurricane Sandy.



National Guard aiding r

Story by Matthew Bieniek

Cumberland Times-News

<http://times-news.com/local/x691730054/Guard-aiding-recovery-in-W-Maryland>



Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins, the adjutant general of Maryland, meets with troops at the Maryland State Police department in McHenry, Md., Nov. 3, who are working with civilian agencies throughout Garrett County aiding in the recovery after the snowfall that hit the county as a result of Hurricane Sandy (Photo by Maj. Rick Breitenfeldt).

National Guard troops teamed up with Garrett County police agencies, Nov. 3, to plow into the hardest hit areas of the county to bring relief to residents.

Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins, the adjutant general of Maryland, checked in at the Emergency Operations Center in Oakland. He then headed out into the Cranesville area and Youghiogheny Mountain Resort, some

of the most damaged areas by the snow and winds as superstorm Sandy transformed into a blizzard at the beginning of last week.

"It took a day for the Guard and other agencies to haul in fuel for the county 911 cell tower," Adkins said.

About 8,000 people remained without power Saturday evening, Nov. 3, in the county.

The general and Garrett County Sheriff Rob Corley rode in a convoy of vehicles into storm-ravaged areas to help open up roads

and aid electricity and communications recovery.

Corley said the cooperation between agencies was strong, and he praised the state police, the Department of Natural Resources and others for the effort.

About 95 percent of the state and county roads were passable by late Saturday, Corley said. Deputies were getting little rest.

Corley and his deputies were working with a list of senior citizens and others who

they checked on one by one to make sure they were accounted for and safe.

"It's difficult to tell you the devastation. It is going to be weeks, months for a full recovery," Corley said.

Potomac Edison crews were called in to restore power from as far away as Florida, Corley said. That included as many as 300 linemen and 175 people on saw crews.

About 77 guard troops were in the county Saturday; the first were deployed Monday.

Guard members brought 38 pieces of equipment with them to help dig the county out from 30-plus inches of snow in many areas.

Troops were quartered with Maryland State Police in the county.

The commander on the scene in Garrett County is Lt. Col. Weedon Gallagher of Harve de Grace.

"We have Soldiers from east as far as Salisbury coming up here to offer support," Gallagher said.

"We're your neighbors. It's what we do," said Gallagher.

Recovery in W. Maryland

**“WE’RE YOUR NEIGHBORS.
IT’S WHAT WE DO,”**

-Lt. Col. Weedon Gallagher



Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins, the adjutant general of Maryland, receives a brief, Nov. 3, on how the Maryland National Guard troops are working with civilian agencies in response to the snowfall that hit Garrett County as a result of Hurricane Sandy (Photo by Maj. Rick Breitenfeldt).

Members of the Maryland National Guard 729th Battalion Support Company and 1729th Field Support Maintenance Company helped recover a utility vehicle in Deep Creek Lake, Md., Nov. 2, that was stuck in the mud created by the snowfall that hit the county as a result of Hurricane Sandy (Photo by 2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly).



Maryland National Guard: Mission Complete

Story by 1st Lt.

Kristofer Baumgartner

The cost and devastation from Super Storm Sandy is still being calculated as the Maryland National Guard returns to normal operations this week.

At the peak of the storm response efforts, the Maryland Guard had 116 vehicles and 800 personnel dispatched throughout the state. The Guard also accepted and completed 41 missions from 17 counties, Baltimore City, Annapolis and Ocean City.

"Although the Guard missions related to this particular storm have been completed, we are al-

ways on call to assist our neighbors," said Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins, adjutant general of Maryland. "The Maryland National Guard is always ready."

The Maryland National Guard prepositioned many of its Soldiers and Airmen at the 32 readiness centers around the state in advance of the storm.

Prepositioning the Guard's assets helps emergency managers tailor the state's response by putting exactly what they need to handle a situation exactly where they need it. This is cost effective and ensures a quick response, making effective

use of people and equipment, according to Adkins.

The "super storm," which began to blow into the Mid-Atlantic and New England regions on Monday, Oct. 29, tested the Maryland National Guard's response capabilities over a variety of diverse missions. As the storm hooked west, creating a massive storm surge during high tide, it collided with a winter storm system over West Virginia and the western-most counties of Maryland.

The Maryland National Guard quickly found itself responding to the flooding from the Eastern Shore to Baltimore and beyond by helping with evacuations and moving food, water and equipment while augmenting first responders to assist with their transportation needs. At the same time, the massive snowfall in Garrett and Allegany Counties required immediate attention, and the Maryland National Guard was there, as well.

The Maryland National Guard sent dozens of vehicles and personnel to western Maryland to assist first responders there. By Saturday, Nov. 3, the

Guard was transporting and dispensing fuel, food and vital supplies to the region, helping their neighbors dig out from more than 30 inches of snow.

As Marylanders were recovering from the effects of the storm, New Jersey and New York requested assistance from neighboring states. On Saturday, Nov. 3, a Maryland National Guard C-27J cargo aircraft crew flew power generators and other equipment to help New Yorkers get through the days to come.

During the recovery efforts the Guard mobilized the 115th Military Police Battalion with more than 70 Soldiers leaving for a yearlong deployment to Afghanistan. With currently 300 Soldiers performing their battlefield functions overseas, the Guard still has the capability to help our neighbors here at home.

To join the Maryland Army National Guard simply call 1-800 GO-GUARD or to join the Maryland Air National Guard call 1-800-TO-GO-ANG. For more information about the National Guard visit our website at <http://www.md.ngb.army.mil>.



Clockwise from top left: Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins meets with Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley in Crisfield, Md., after Hurricane Sandy to assess the damage and see the work being done by the Maryland National Guard and other agencies (Photo by Maj. Rick Breitenfeldt). Maryland National Guard Soldiers navigate through high water near Edgemere, Md., Oct. 30, to assist in relief efforts for Hurricane Sandy (Photo by Sgt. Edwin Gray, 29th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment). Members from several Maryland Guard units are deployed to Crisfield, Md., to assist local authorities with house-to-house evacuations after Hurricane Sandy passed Oct. 30 (Photo by Staff Sgt. Thaddeus Harrington, 29th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment).

Logistics personnel readiness efforts prepare Maryland National Guard for storm

The Maryland Army National Guard Logistics team.



Maryland Army National Guard equipment from across the state was brought to Western Maryland to help civilian agencies in response to the snowfall that struck Garrett County as a result of Hurricane Sandy.

Story and photos by 2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly

The Maryland National Guard was ready to answer the call to help the citizens of Maryland in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, which reached the state late Oct. 29. That preparedness proved essential during the storm, but it was not an easy task to accomplish.

The MDNG Logistics team put forth a high level of effort in maintaining the state's Logistics readiness, making sure the Guard members were prepared for a natural disaster, such as this.

"It's all based on the hard work you all have done," said Col. Wayne Johnson, Maryland Army National Guard Logistics director, to the state's Logistics personnel. "We've reached all of our goals and have even exceeded [them] in some categories."

Recently, the MDNG Logistics section was recognized by the National Guard Bureau for excelling in the operational state readiness based on four categories – Overall Logistics Information Technology Status, Excess Equipment Management, Financial Liability Investigations of Property Loss, and Individual Categories of Readiness. The Maryland Army National Guard was one of only 10 out of 54 states and territories that was marked green in all four categories by meeting the standards set by NGB.

The Guard realized the importance of this readiness during its response to Hurricane Sandy. Counties across the state called on the National Guard for assistance in transporting emergency personnel and supplies, aiding in rescuing citizens trapped by high waters and snow, removing debris from roadways



and power lines, and checking on the health and welfare of Marylanders. The service members were ready with the necessary equipment for these missions, to include 5-ton Light Medium Tactical Vehicles, 'humvees,' backhoes, and wrecker trucks.

Brig. Gen. Peter Hinz, assistant adjutant general-Army, explained that in the past, Maryland had been significantly lower in all categories—ranked toward the bottom of the list. However, due to the efforts of the Logistics personnel at Maryland Army National Guard units throughout the state, Maryland is now one of the top-ranked states in Logistics categories.

"These are the results of the hard work you all have done over the past two years," said Hinz. "It reflects on you, and it reflects on the entire organization. ... You can stand tall and know that we are one of the best states in the nation."

While the Logistics Soldiers have worked hard to bring Maryland into the top tier, Hinz advised that they are going to have to work harder in the upcoming years to maintain that preparedness.

"We're going to have challenges to face and budget constraints ahead, and we're going to have to deal with it the best we can," said Hinz. "Keep up the incredible work."

Thank you for your support:



Follow us on social media to get updates on the great work of the Soldiers, Airmen and civilians that make up the Maryland Military Department:

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Like · Comment · Share

1

46 people like this.



Helal Uddin Nice

October 28 at 3:42pm · Like



Tyrese Johnson Nice to know they are there!

October 28 at 3:48pm · Like



Lorraine Jusbeingme Cason Thats what we do, serving the community!!

October 28 at 3:50pm · Like · 2



Lisa Wachter Thank you for protecting our community and be safe!

October 28 at 3:54pm · Like



Bruce Kahl Always ready

October 28 at 3:56pm · Like



Brian Zdunowski Make us proud Easton!

October 28 at 4:06pm · Like · 2



Kimberley Maher Be safe!

October 28 at 4:21pm · Like



Caleb Clemens Be safe guys, thank you

October 28 at 7:06pm · Like



Like · Comment · Share

25

188 people like this.



Ivette Gonzalez Thank you for everything you do!

October 29 at 11:12am via mobile · Like · 1



Corrine Hollinger Darden Praying for everyone's safety..

October 29 at 2:41pm · Like · 1



Alicia Utz Realtor at Houses By A2z (703) 232-5766 Thanks for your service!

October 30 at 4:35pm · Like



Craig N Williams Awesome job to all of you!!!

October 30 at 7:34pm · Like



Ann Marie Boyd Thanks for being READY WILLING AND [ABLE] TO help us during the scariest time ever!!! U guys r the BEST!!!

November 1 at 9:53am · Like



Maryland National Guard Soldiers navigate through high water near Edgemere, Md., Oct. 30, to assist in relief efforts for Hurricane Sandy (Photo by Sgt. Edwin Gray, 29th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment).



On The LINE



Maryland National Guard Soldiers report to the task force headquarters in Adelphi, Md., Oct. 29, to support local civilian agencies and the citizens of Maryland in preparation of Hurricane Sandy (Photo by 2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly).



Members of the Maryland National Guard worked with civilian authorities in Garrett County, Md., Nov. 3, to help in response to the snowfall that hit the county as a result of Hurricane Sandy. The Soldiers helped to remove debris from roadways and power lines, transported citizens and emergency workers, conducted health and welfare checks, as well as other duties throughout the county (Photo by Maj. Rick Breitenfeldt).

Members of the Maryland National Guard 58th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade prepare to dispatch from the Montgomery County Emergency Management facility in Gaithersburg, Md., Oct. 29, to stage at fire departments across the county in preparation of Hurricane Sandy (Photo by 2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly).



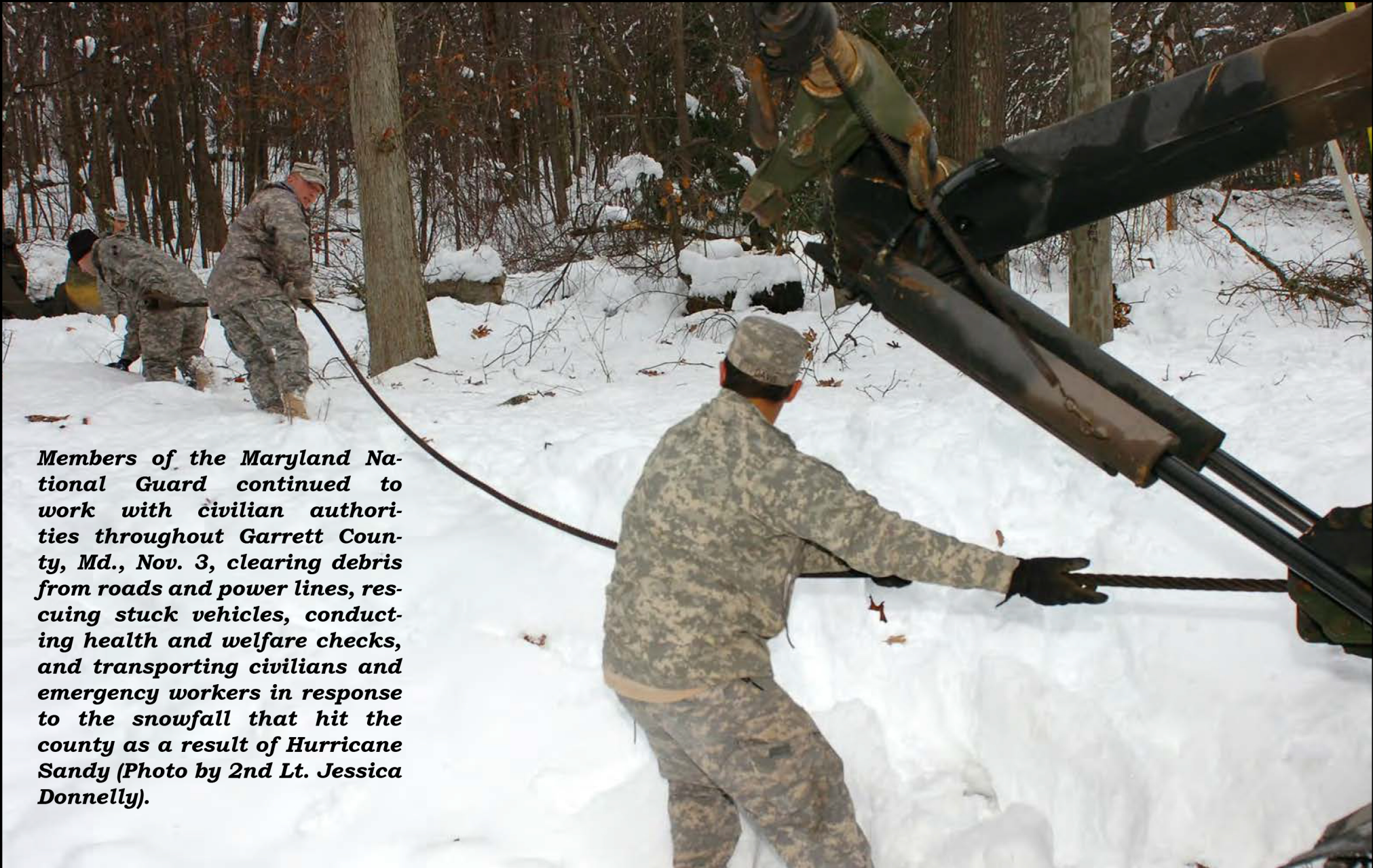
FINAL FRAME

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Members of the Maryland National Guard continued to work with civilian authorities throughout Garrett County, Md., Nov. 3, clearing debris from roads and power lines, rescuing stuck vehicles, conducting health and welfare checks, and transporting civilians and emergency workers in response to the snowfall that hit the county as a result of Hurricane Sandy (Photo by 2nd Lt. Jessica Donnelly).

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